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UNCLAS ATHENS 000263

SIPDIS

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TAGS: [ECON](#) [EFIN](#) [EINV](#) [GR](#) [AMB](#)

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR RIES CALLS ON GOVERNOR OF THE BANK OF GREECE

- [1](#)1. (U) SUMMARY: Ambassador Ries paid an introductory call on Greek Central Bank Governor Garganas on January 20 and thanked him for his effort
- [1](#)2. (U) In their first meeting on January 20, the Ambassador thanked Garganas for his efforts, and those of his staff, in combating terrorist
- [1](#)3. (U) The Ambassador asked Garganas about the January 17 ECOFIN meeting where one of the issues was what measures Greece should take to lower
- [1](#)4. (U) Garganas also mentioned that while some Eurozone members wanted to make major changes to, or perhaps even to abolish, the Stability Pact
- [1](#)5. (U) When the Ambassador asked Garganas about the growing levels of consumer credit lending in Greece, Garganas replied that he was not over
- [1](#)6. (U) At the conclusion of their meeting, the Ambassador noted that Greece had the least US direct investment proportional to income of the